The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing this as one of the US consumers who is in favor of the merger between Echostar and Direct TV. I have been patiently waiting for a positve decision of merger approval to be made by the FCC which will hopefully giv e the cable company monopolies some type of competition. I am also waiting for local channels and broadband access offered by this merger. I believe t hat this merger is in the favor of the consumer, like me who would like to have decent pricing and other available options in my area. I am sure that the cable companies are hoping that the FCC will do the job of 'wiping out any legitimate competition' such as by not approving this merger. The cable companies can just sit here and watch all this happen and provide little e ffort to stop it all being that the FCC may do this for them. Hopefully all angles will be examined fairly by the FCC folks and the merger will go thr ough as a result of this. I believe that Dish/Direct TV will be supportive and honest to the consumer and will give the consumer many options as far a s programming and other services at a fair price. Would the folks at the FC C please take my words seriously here even though I am just one consumer? T hank you for hearing me out.

Sincerely,

Kevin C. Higgins 52 Devitt Rd. Rochester, NY 14615